

AUCTION SALE Of Valuable Real Estate

To close the Estates of the deceased stockholders of the Terrapin Knob Improvement Company, I will on **MONDAY, OCTOBER 27TH, 1913,** at 2 p. m., sell at the front door of the Wood County Court House, in Parkersburg, West Virginia, the following Real Estate:

LOT corner of Sixth and Juliana streets, 45x100 feet, on which there is an eight room house.

LOT corner of East and Seventh streets, 104x90 feet. These two lots are well situated for business purposes or dwelling lots.

A FARM of 155 acres in Clay District on the Kanawha river, about five miles east of Parkersburg, well adapted for manufacturing plant or dairy farm.

One farm of 30 acres in Tygart District a short distance from Parkersburg.

175 acres of land in Hannon District, Mason County, West Virginia, under which is a large vein of coal.

TERMS OF SALE—One-third cash on day of sale, balance in one or two years.

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The Star Of Bethlehem

"Suddenly in the air before them not further than a low hilltop, flared a lambent flame. As they looked at it the apparition contracted into a focus of dazzling lustre. Their hearts beat fast; their souls thrilled and they shouted as with one voice: 'The Star! The Star! God is with us!'"

This is General Lew Wallace's description of the Star of Bethlehem, appearing to the Wise Men of the East in the famous book, "Ben Hur."

This is the way also that the marvellous star is shown in Klaw and Erlanger's production of "Ben Hur." It forms the first scene of the drama. Flashing upon a darkened stage, with its background of an Oriental desert, its effect is startling in the extreme. How that Star is produced, first as a soft lambent flame, burning with unearthly brilliancy and finally fading away as it leads the Wise Men on to their goal, is an achievement worth knowing something about, for it is a masterpiece of stage invention, and the most brilliant stage light in the world.

It is made possible only by the wonderful development of the electric light and the electric appliances used on the stage.

If you should go behind the scenes of the theater where the play is being enacted, you would see this magical "Star of Bethlehem," only as a pole fourteen feet high with cross bar and huge metallic disc at the top sixteen feet across. It bears about the same resemblance to the splendid spectacle it is to produce as the bare framework in the daylight of a "set piece" of fireworks does to the brilliant pyrotechnic display which is made when it is set off at night. But there is something else besides this bare pole and disc needed to produce the wonderful illusion. Fifteen feet back of the pole is a large searchlight and reflector turned toward the big disc. Just aside from these two pieces of apparatus is a table covered with what looks to the untrained eye to be a set of telegraph instruments of various sizes. But their purpose is far different. They are electric buttons and switches, attached in a bewildering set of wires that lead to the searchlight, to the electric pole and disc, and to the big wires of the powerful currents that supply the theater with light and power.

In all this mechanism one fails to observe at first the star at all. But it is there, or rather, the thing that makes it. In the center of the big metallic disc, two mammoth carbon tips almost an inch thick may be seen. These form the arc light of tremendous power which is to flash forth as the "Guiding Light" dazzling and blinding to the eye in its lustre.

But there are other effects to be produced besides the brilliant white light in order to present the miracle star as described in "Ben Hur." It first appears over the desert hills as a "lambent flame." To make a soft glow of this sort requires an entirely different arrangement than for the star proper.

That is what the big metallic disc is for. In a succession of circles around its face are placed lines of tiny incandescent lights of considerable power. Over these hundred or little lights and the disc is spread thin canvas, making it look from the front like a great white screen, with just a tiny hole in the middle. There is a button on the table near by which when pressed, will light all these numberless little electric lights; a switch that will set the disc in rapid motion. When the stage and theater are darkened there then appears the soft opalescent glow, or "lambent flame," which is to mark the first appearance of the celestial light of the star itself. The same switch, turned another notch, will make the star flash forth in increasing brilliancy. Still another switch on the table, when turned will cause the star and disc to rise from near the floor to the top of the pole. One more effect remains to be produced. It is the shooting rays of a star as seen in the heavens. This too is provided for in this marvelous stage contrivance. Another key at the operator's table is turned, the searchlight bursts forth and focuses its dazzling beam on the fast revolving disc passing through bars or slits that radiate from the center outward.

Across the stage are shot thousands of scintillating rays. That is the climax of the spectacular effect, when the "lambent flame" has grown into a fierce white star, shedding its rays broadcast and almost blinding its beholders. All this stage mechanism is required to produce an effect which the novelist describes in these words in another part of "Ben Hur."

"A light was breaking around him, soft and white, like the moon's. He waited breathlessly. The light deepened. Things before invisible came to view. He saw the whole field and all it sheltered. A chill sharper than

that of frosty air, a chill of fear smote him."

"He looked up. The stars were gone. The light was dropping as from a window in the sky. As he looked it became a splendor."

"See," cried the watchman, "the sky is on fire."

"Suddenly the light became intolerably bright and they covered their eyes and dropped upon their knees as their souls shrank with fear."

This marvellous play of light lasts exactly one minute and a half upon the stage. Twenty-five thousand candle power of electricity is required to produce it—enough to light a whole town.

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Men's Cotton Sox—medium weight—Black—six thread toe and heel—double sole, 25¢ pair.

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